

## CHAPTER V: PARKS & RECREATION



Future home of Virginia  
Marie Granados Park



Buckeye Park

This chapter contains goals and objectives for improving the community's parks and recreation system. Priorities include maintaining and improving existing parks, ensuring proper development of the new Virginia Marie Granados Park, and securing a community center for the area.

## Goal 10: Parks & Recreation

Enhance the area's parks & recreation facilities and programming to meet the present and future needs of the Greater Dellview Planning Area

### Objective 10.1: Parks Advocacy Group

Create a Greater Dellview Area parks advocacy group

#### Action Steps:

##### 10.1.1 Establish a parks advocacy committee as a subcommittee of the Plan Implementation Team

- Appoint leadership
- Craft a work program based on the Plan's action steps
- Spearhead the implementation of the Parks & Recreation chapter of the Greater Dellview Area Community Plan

<i>Timeline:</i>	Immediate
<i>Lead Partner:</i>	Plan Implementation Team
<i>Proposed Partnerships:</i>	Planning Area Neighborhood Associations
<i>Proposed Funding Sources:</i>	Minimal/Volunteer

##### 10.1.2 Seek Affiliate Group Membership with the San Antonio Parks Foundation's Friends of the Parks organization to remain informed about park issues and developments in San Antonio

<i>Timeline:</i>	Immediate
<i>Lead Partner:</i>	Parks Advocacy Committee
<i>Proposed Partnerships:</i>	San Antonio Parks Foundation
<i>Proposed Funding Sources:</i>	Minimal/Volunteer

##### 10.1.3 Investigate and apply for funding

- Work with the City of San Antonio (COSA) Parks & Recreation Department, the San Antonio Parks Foundation, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and the National Park Service to identify funding sources to finance the group's activities

- Work with COSA Parks & Recreation to apply for grants from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the National Park Service’s Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program, and other private and public grants as grants and matching funds are available.

*Timeline:* Short (1 - 2 years) and Ongoing

*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee

*Proposed Partnerships:* COSA Parks & Recreation, San Antonio Parks Foundation, Texas Parks and Wildlife, National Park Service

*Proposed Funding Sources:* Minimal/Volunteer

#### **10.1.4 Strengthen the parks advocacy group by recruiting members and volunteers through an awareness campaign**

- Create a group “identity” using a logo and/or theme and include this logo on all materials distributed by the group
- Create and distribute an informational brochure explaining the group and detailing ways in which community residents can participate
- Regularly publish a newsletter to inform the community of the group’s efforts and achievements

*Timeline:* Immediate and Ongoing

*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee

*Proposed Partnerships:* Planning Area Neighborhood Associations

*Proposed Funding Sources:* Neighborhood Association Contributions

### **Objective 10.2: Park Maintenance**

Maintain the community’s existing parks as safe and enjoyable gathering places for the community

#### **Action Steps:**

##### **10.2.1 Routinely monitor basic maintenance conditions (mowing, graffiti, broken equipment, etc.) in community parks**

- Use neighborhood association meetings to solicit community input concerning basic park maintenance issues
- Call the City’s Customer Call Center (311) to report all park maintenance issues

*Timeline:* Immediate and Ongoing

*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee

*Proposed Partnerships:* Neighborhood Associations, COSA Parks & Recreation, COSA External Relations

*Proposed Funding Sources:* Minimal/Volunteer

### 10.2.2 Inventory significant maintenance and infrastructure needs (i.e. drainage, lighting, etc.) in community parks

- Solicit community input and inspect community parks for significant infrastructure maintenance needs
- Evaluate the San Antonio Parks and Recreation System Strategic Plan as it relates to inventoried maintenance and infrastructure needs for area parks, noting those needs not addressed in the Strategic Plan
- Contact 311 to report park infrastructure maintenance issues and to discuss possible solutions

*Timeline:* Short (1 - 2 years)

*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee

*Proposed Partnerships:* Planning Area Neighborhood Associations, COSA Parks & Recreation, COSA External Relations – Customer Service

*Proposed Funding Sources:* Minimal/Volunteer

## Objective 10.3: Enhance Existing Park Facilities

Enhance amenities in the area's existing parks

### Action Steps:

#### 10.3.1 Monitor the progress of the new Virginia Marie Granados Park

- Periodically contact the Park Project Services office of COSA Parks & Recreation to verify progress on Granados Park and to determine when the public input meeting on park design will occur

*Timeline:* Immediate

*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee

*Proposed Partnerships:* Neighborhood Associations, COSA Parks & Recreation, COSA Housing & Community Development

*Proposed Funding Sources:* Minimal/Volunteer



Future home of Virginia Marie Granados Park

#### 10.3.2 Evaluate existing park facilities as they relate to desired enhancements

- Through Planning Area Neighborhood Association meetings and mailings, survey residents concerning their desired amenities and upgrades for the area's existing park facilities, including community demand/desire for a skate park, dog park, and outdoor performance space (i.e. amphitheater).

- Compare the community's desired amenities with the proposed (but non-funded) upgrades in the Parks & Recreation System Strategic Plan, as shown in the Proposed Park Projects Map

*Timeline:* Short (1 - 2 years)  
*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee  
*Proposed Partnerships:* Planning Area Neighborhood Associations  
*Proposed Funding Sources:* Neighborhood Association Contributions

### 10.3.3 Review and identify park and open space accessibility needs, especially as they relate to elderly and disabled accessibility

- Work with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) office of COSA Public Works, and COSA Parks & Recreation to identify accessibility standards and how they relate to community parks

*Timeline:* Short (1 - 2 years)  
*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee  
*Proposed Partnerships:* COSA Public Works, COSA Parks and Recreation, COSA Housing & Community Development  
*Proposed Funding Sources:* Minimal/Volunteer

### 10.3.4 Install a playground at the Westfall Public Library

- Work with the San Antonio Public Library to investigate the feasibility of a playground at this location and to identify funding sources available for this project

*Timeline:* Mid (3 - 5 years) to Long (Over 5 years)  
*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee  
*Proposed Partnerships:* Planning Area Neighborhood Associations, COSA Library  
*Proposed Funding Sources:* Public Funds (General Fund); KaBoom! (non-profit organization that specializes in linking communities & corporations to fund playground construction - [www.kaboom.com](http://www.kaboom.com))



Westfall Public Library

### 10.3.5 Monitor the status of the non-funded proposed park upgrade projects in the Parks & Recreation System Strategic Plan (as shown on the Proposed Park Projects Map)

- Advocate with City Councilperson and COSA Parks & Recreation for the funding of these projects
- Participate in the planning process for projects that do receive funding, advocating for the inclusion of the community's desired enhancements in the project design

*Timeline:* Long (over 5 years)  
*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee  
*Proposed Partnerships:* Planning Area Neighborhood Associations, COSA Parks & Recreation, COSA Housing & Community Development  
*Proposed Funding Sources:* Public Funds (General Fund)

### 10.3.6 Participate in future updates of the Parks & Recreation System Strategic Plan, advocating for the community's desired enhancements

- The System Strategic Plan will be revised with informational updates every two years beginning in 2008 and a complete rewrite of the document will occur in 2015

*Timeline:* Mid (3 - 5 years)  
*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee  
*Proposed Partnerships:* Planning Area Neighborhood Associations, COSA Parks & Recreation  
*Proposed Funding Sources:* Minimal/Volunteer

### 10.3.7 Discuss with the San Antonio Parks Foundation the possibility of identifying one or more of the Greater Dellview Area's parks as a rehabilitation project sponsored by the Foundation

*Timeline:* Mid (3 - 5 years) to Long (Over 5 years)  
*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee  
*Proposed Partnerships:* San Antonio Parks Foundation  
*Proposed Funding Sources:* Private Funds (Parks Foundation)

## Objective 10.4: Increase Park Acreage

Increase the acreage of parks in the planning area through the creation of new parks

### Action Steps:

#### 10.4.1 Convert the Olmos Creek drainage channel into a linear park

- Work with the COSA Planning, COSA Public Works, and COSA Parks & Recreation to investigate expanding the Olmos Creek Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration project (partially funded by a grant from the US Army Corps of Engineers), or elements of the project such as the trail system, past San Pedro Avenue through to Jackson Keller
- Participate in future Parks & Recreation Strategic Plan updates to ensure that a linear park along Olmos Creek is included as a recommended future project
- Explore the potential for a public funding initiative, similar to Proposition 2 in 2005, for the purpose of purchasing land and developing parks and trails along the Olmos Creek drainage channel

*Timeline:* Mid (3 - 5 years) to Long (Over 5 years)

*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee

*Proposed Partnerships:* Planning Area Neighborhood Associations, COSA Planning, COSA Public Works, COSA Parks & Recreation, COSA Housing & Community Development

*Proposed Funding Sources:* Public Funds (General Fund, US Army Corps of Engineers Funding)

#### 10.4.2 Examine uses adjacent to existing parks and open spaces to identify potential for existing park expansion

- Inventory vacant, underdeveloped, or underutilized land adjacent to existing area parks
- Research ownership information for the inventoried vacant and underutilized land, particularly noting publicly-owned land or land located in a floodplain
- Evaluate the 2005 San Antonio Parks & Recreation Strategic Plan as it relates to each community park's potential for expansion and the community's desired park enhancements, noting those opportunities not addressed in the plan

*Timeline:* Short (1 - 2 years)

*Lead Partner:* Parks Advocacy Committee

*Proposed Partnerships:* Planning Area Neighborhood Associations

*Proposed Funding Sources:* Minimal/Volunteer

#### 10.4.3 Participate in future Parks & Recreation Strategic Plan updates to ensure that identified new park opportunities are included as recommended future projects

<i>Timeline:</i>	Mid (3 - 5 years)
<i>Lead Partner:</i>	Parks Advocacy Committee
<i>Proposed Partnerships:</i>	Planning Area Neighborhood Associations, COSA Parks & Recreation
<i>Proposed Funding Sources:</i>	Minimal/Volunteer

#### 10.4.4 Discuss with the San Antonio Parks Foundation the identification of one or more of the new park opportunities in the Greater Dellview Area as a Foundation-sponsored new park project

<i>Timeline:</i>	Mid (3 - 5 years) to Long (Over 5 years)
<i>Lead Partner:</i>	Parks Advocacy Committee
<i>Proposed Partnerships:</i>	San Antonio Parks Foundation
<i>Proposed Funding Sources:</i>	Private Funds (Parks Foundation)

### Objective 10.5: Recreational Programs

Increase awareness, usage, and availability of recreational programs in the planning area

#### Action Steps:

##### 10.5.1 Launch a “marketing campaign” to educate residents about available parks & recreational activities and programs

- Gather information on recreation facilities and programs for a range of people including youth, seniors, disabled, etc.
- Create a welcome package for new residents and a community newsletter to disseminate recreation facility and program information to the community

<i>Timeline:</i>	Short (1 - 2 years)
<i>Lead Partner:</i>	Parks Advocacy Committee
<i>Proposed Partnerships:</i>	Planning Area Neighborhood Associations, COSA Parks & Recreation, Other Community Organizations that Sponsor Recreational Activities (YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, etc.)
<i>Proposed Funding Sources:</i>	Neighborhood Association Contributions, Parks Advocacy Committee Funds



**10.5.2 Work with City departments (COSA Parks and Recreation and COSA Community Initiatives) and outside agencies (YMCA, United Way, Area Agency on Aging, etc.) to increase recreational programming in the planning area for all ages**

<i>Timeline:</i>	Short (1 - 2 years) to Mid (3 - 5 years)
<i>Lead Partner:</i>	Parks Advocacy Committee
<i>Proposed Partnerships:</i>	Planning Area Neighborhood Associations, Other Community Organizations (YMCA, United Way, Area Agency on Aging, etc.), COSA Parks & Recreation, COSA Community Initiatives, COSA Housing & Community Development
<i>Proposed Funding Sources:</i>	Public and Private Funds

